NEW ENGLAND FARMER

DEVOTED TO AGRICULTURE AND ALL ITS VARIOUS KINDRED ARTS AND SCIENCES.

Honor waits, o'er all the earth, The art that calls her harvests forth.—BRYANT.

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S. W. COLE, EDITOR. QUINCY HALL, BOSTON. J. NOURSE, PROPRIETOR.

AGRICULTURAL AND HORTICULTURAL EXHIBITIONS.

FROM the increase of these societies, and the increasing zeal and intelligence in them, the fine exhibitions in different sections, the large number in attendance eagerly learning from every available advantage, and the talent and character that give them support and encouragement, it is evident that a great deal is doing to make improvements in all the industrial branches, and that these associations are among the most effective means of accomplishing so desirable an object.

Within a few years, many new societies have been formed; and, though yet in their infancy, they are vying with older associations in their shows, in the intelligence of their officers and members, and in their wide-spread and happy influence on the public mind. May this noble emulation, in a worthy cause, speed on until every desert place in our beloved country shall rejoice under the gladdening influence of skilful cultivation.

POWER OF INSECTS.

It is truly astonishing that the power of insects over the affairs of man exceeds that of the most formidable animals of sea or land. In some cases, the crops of the farmer are entirely cut off by minute insects, and the comfort and happiness of man is often destroyed by these mischievous enemies. Sometimes a single mosquito will disturb his repose, and for hours elude his most violent attacks.

We are led to make these remarks from a notice in the Michigan Farmer of the devastation of the army worm, which appeared the past summer. It made sad havoc on one farm near Fort Huron, on Black River. They marched in solid phalanx, through field after field, devouring every thing in their way. Where a crop of five thousand bushels of oats was expected, there will not be a single bushel. One tenant was driven from his house, and the owner, on the opposite side of the river, was able to keep possession of his dwelling only by attacking them on the bridge, and sweeping them into the river.

PROTECTION OF FRUIT TREES.

Mr. Levi Burt, of Walpole, N. H., says, that he has succeeded in preventing the ascent of bugs and worms upon fruit trees by surrounding the tree with a leaden trough, and then filling the trough with oil. This mode has been tried considerably in some sections of the country, and it is generally successful; but it is very expensive, and the troughs, with the stuffing between them and the tree, to stop the passage of insects, is injurious to the tree.

A more economical mode is the application to each tree of pieces of board forming a circle around it, extending a few inches from the trunk; and to the smooth surface underneath apply tar, melted India rubber, oil, varnish, or any other offensive, slippery, or viscid substance, that will prevent the passage of insects. This substance will not be exposed to rain or sun, and will be more durable in its effects than any application in an exposed situation.

BRISTOL CATTLE SHOW.

This festival was held at Taunton, the 11th inst. We copy the following general remarks on this show from the Bristol County Free Democrat: —

The morning was unpropitious, the rain pouring down in torrents from early dawn to nine o'clock in the forenoon, when the clouds broke away, and the afternoon was warm and pleasant. The rain, however, had an unfavorable effect on the attendance of strangers during the day; still there was a fair collection of the yeomanry of the county present on the occasion.

The ploughing match was delayed an hour in the morning on account of the storm, but the number of entries was quite large. The drawing was performed as usual in a very creditable manner, notwithstanding the unfavorable circumstances of the rain and muddy streets.

The stock of fat cattle, horses, swine, poultry, &c., was not large, but equal in quality to many former years. Most of the pens were occupied.

At the Town Hall, the exhibition of fruits and fancy articles was decidedly superior, in our opinion, to any previous one. The large hall was well stored with manufactured articles, agricultural implements, embroidery and other products of female industry; butter, cheese, honey, and other agricultural products.

CATTLE SHOW AT NORTHAMPTON.

We copy from the Hampshire Gazette a short account of this exhibition. At another time, we shall refer to the reports of some committees.

The cattle show and fair of the Hampshire, Franklin, and Hampden Agricultural Society was held in this town, on Wednesday and Thursday last. On account of the threatening aspect of the weather, or for some other reason, the crowd of people did not appear to be quite so large as usual; but nevertheless, our streets were thronged, and oyster pedlers and auctioneers were as numerous and as noisy as ever.

The show of cattle, in respect to numbers, was inferior to that of many former years; but the quality of the animals would not suffer in comparison with those of any preceding exhibition. There were but two town teams — one from Easthampton, of twenty-six yoke, and one from South Hadley, of sixteen yoke. Both took the highest premium — the one for the greater number, and the other for the better quality. Of swine there never has been a better exhibition. The sow and ten pigs, of the Suffolk breed, owned by Dr. Bardwell, of Whately, elicited universal admiration.

The exhibition at the Town Hall, though inferior in some respects, was, as a whole, quite as good, perhaps, as on former years. The show of fruits was never before equalled. Through the efforts of the Northampton Horticultural Club, the variety and number of specimens of apples, pears, grapes, etc., presented, would have done honor to any similar exhibition, in the best fruit-growing districts. There was also a fine display of dahlias, for which the public were indebted, as the largest contributor, to Mrs. Thomas Bridgman, of the Eagle Paper Mill Village. The show of vegetables was small, and wholly unworthy this rich valley.

The specimens of needle-work were not so numerous as usual, but there were some which displayed much taste and skill. In the more substantial articles, however, there appeared to be no abatement of female industry. The rolls of domestic flannel and frocking showed that the distaff and the loom had not been idle, and their soft, flexible texture inspired a sensation of comfort.

The ploughing match, on Wednesday afternoon, was quite spirited. It took place on Venture's field. Eighteen competitors entered the lists — seventeen horse teams and one ox-team. The ploughing was all good, and the ease with which it was done commanded the admiration of the numerous spectators who surrounded the field.

The show of horses was much less than it would have been on a fair day. Forty entries were made, but not all the horses entered were present for inspection. Those present were of a good quality, and elicited the high commendation of the committee.

The address by Professor John P. Norton was unusually interesting, and well adapted to the wants of the farming community.

NEWLAND'S STRAWBERRY.

On p. 242, we have given some account of this fruit. Since we published that article, we have had many reports confirming the statements which we made. It appears that Newland played off a gross imposition; and we are astonished that cultivators should be so duped by the incredible statements of a stranger, as to run largely into the purchase of an unknown article, when half a dozen plants would have been sufficient for an experiment. This humbug should be classed with those of the Rohan potato, and Chinese Tree corn. It must be a large state that produces so many famous things. We copy the following item from the report of the Fruit Committee of the Worcester Horticultural Society, in June last: —

"Gardiner Paine; Hovey's Seedling, Alpine, and a specimen of 'Newland's celebrated Mammoth Alpine' strawberries. The only celebrity of the latter consists in the number of those who have been imposed upon by it. It is either the old Alpine, or a seedling from it, in no respect differing from its parent."

TILE DRAINING.

We hope that tile draining will be tried in different sections of the country, where there is an abundance of clay, and a scarcity of stones. With good machines, tiles can be made at a very small expense, and the making of tile drains requires but little labor. In England, this business is carried on to a great extent, and with excellent success. On some farms a great many miles of tile drains are laid, and the improvement of the land, as shown by superior crops, is paying a large profit on the capital invested. We copy the following article, on this subject, from the Ohio Cultivator: —

Under-draining with the tile is doing wonders for every one who tries the experiment. John Johnston, whose great farm management you noticed in your last Cultivator, has already received from Mr. Whartenby, the master tile-maker here, about forty thousand two and a half inch tile, more than three thousand rods; his tile machine was imported from England by the enterprising president of our Agricultural Society, John Delafield. It is worked by two men, and makes daily about fifteen hundred tiles, fourteen inches long; they are afterwards dried and baked; the current price at the kiln is ten dollars per thousand. Last spring, several gentlemen called to see Mr. Johnston's farm; he purposely omitted to tell them which wheat field was under-drained, and, the better to elicit their surprise, he led them over one field, where the wet, heavy soil adhered to their boots, much to their annoyance; then, crossing the fence to another wheat field of like soil and formation, they one and all uttered their surprise at its dry and mellow surface. "Gentlemen," exclaimed Mr. J., "you are on my tile." They are laid from twenty to thirty inches deep; a little straw is placed over the joints as they are covered: although the edges of the tile are laid on the bottom of the ditch, experience proves that they sink no deeper into the soil. Soil thus drained possesses a sort of capillary attraction, and power to retain a due equilibrium of moisture, during the most trying drought.

Very truly yours,

SAMUEL WILLIAMS.

WATERLOO, N. Y., *August*, 1849.

PULSE OF VARIOUS ANIMALS.

The pulse of several of our domestic animals, as given by Vatel in his "Veterinary Pathology," is nearly as follows: Horse, from 32 to 38 pulsations per minute; ox or cow, 35 to 42; ass, 48 to 54; sheep, 70 to 79; goat, 72 to 76; dog, 90 to 100; cat, 110 to 120; rabbit, 120; Guinea pig, 140; duck, 136; hen, 140.

THE ARABIAN HORSE.

The Arabian horse is justly celebrated for his swiftness and agility, and in power of endurance he has no superior; but his most distinguishing characteristics are sagacity and docility. He is the companion of his master, and fond associate of his children, whom he allows to play around, and climb upon him; and he moves about in the tent among them with the greatest caution. Our cut represents the intimate connection existing between an Arabian family and their kind and faithful horses. And the Arab deserves a compliment for his tender care and affectionate regard for his horse, as, in his kind treatment, he sets a noble example worthy of the attention of the civilized world.

The following anecdote illustrates the sagacity of the Arabian horse, as well as his ardent affection for his master. A part of the scene is represented above.

"An Arab chief, with his tribe, had attacked, in the night, a caravan of Damas, and plundered it: when loaded with their spoil, however, the robbers were overtaken on their return by some horsemen of the pacha of Acre, who killed several, and bound the remainder with cords. In this state of bondage they brought one of the prisoners, named Abou el Marck, to Acre, and laid him, bound hand and foot, wounded as he was, at the entrance to their tent, as they slept during the night. Kept awake by the pain of his wounds, the Arab heard his horse's neigh at a little distance, and being desirous to see, for the last time, the companion of his life, he dragged himself, bound as he was, to the horse, which was picketed at a little distance. 'Poor friend,' says he, 'what will you do among the Turks? You will be shut up under the roof of a khan, with the horses of a pacha or an aga; no longer will the women of the tent bring you barley, camel's milk, or dourra, in the hollow of their hand; no longer will you gallop free as the wind of Egypt in the desert; no longer will you cleave with your bosom the waters of the Jordan, which cool your sides, as pure as the foam of your lips. If I am to be a slave, at least may you go free. Go: return to our tent, which you know so well; tell my wife that Abou el Marck will return no more; but put your head still into the folds of the tent, and lick the hands of my beloved children.' With these words, as his hands were tied, he undid with his teeth the fetters which held the courser bound, and set him at liberty; but the noble animal, on recovering his freedom, instead of bounding away to the desert, bent his head over his master, and, seeing him in fetters and on the ground, took his clothes gently in his teeth, lifted him up, and set off at full speed for home. Without ever resting, he made straight for the distant but well-known tent in the mountains of Arabia. He arrived there in safety, and laid his master safe down at the feet of his wife and children, and immediately dropped down dead with fatigue. The whole tribe mourned him; the poets celebrated his fidelity; and his name is still constantly in the mouths of the Arabs of Jericho."

In 1842, a fine Arabian horse, of pure blood, was presented by the sultan of Muscat to David Pingree, Esq., of Salem, as a mark of distinction and particular regard, selected as one of the best from a stud of one hundred horses. Hon. Richard P. Waters, late United States consul at Zanzibar, who shipped said horse by order of his highness the sultan, remarks as follows of this race:—

"It is well known that all the superior properties of the Barbary, the Andalusian, and the English blood horse are derived from the Arabian. This blood of horses have greater powers of endurance, better wind, or *bottom*, as it is technically called, than any other in the world — beside more ease of motion, activity, and grace of action.

"It is unnecessary to recommend him to those who

are fond of fine horses, as highly worthy of their attention. RICHARD P. WATERS."

This Arabian horse "Imaun," or "*Pingree horse*," as he is often called, was purchased of Mr. Pingree, by Mr. M. L. Hayes, of Farmington, N. H., where he has been kept this season, and where it is intended to keep him in future, for the improvement of stock. He should claim the attention of farmers in that region, who would improve their race of horses.

For the New England Farmer.

BOOKS.

Books! I dearly love them. It is a source of gratitude with me that my mind was early imbued with a taste for reading. Time cannot hang heavily on my hands, or pass tediously away, with an interesting book for a companion; and the mind may experience a pure delight when absorbed in the enchanting page. History acquaints us with the scenes of other days — the deeds of men who have long since left the earth. Their actions pass in review before us; we forget the lapse of time. We may not be able to travel over the globe; our lives may pass in humble obscurity; yet through the medium of books we may visit far off-lands; we may gaze on their lofty mountains and sunny vales, their majestic forests and mighty streams. We become acquainted with the appearance, character, and habits of people on the opposite side of the globe, and our minds are stored with information which proves a source of much pleasure. While engaged in labor, we may meditate on what we have read, and communicate it to others. I sincerely pity the person who has no relish for books. He loses much that is valuable. His mind is necessarily contracted, his views limited, and his conversation confined to subjects within the range of his own small experience. The stores of knowledge which might be so easily gained, and which would render him a more useful and happy man, are neglected and despised. In a country like this, where reading matter is so abundant, it is surely the duty of every parent to strive to inspire their children with a love for judicious books; and if the habit of reading is early formed, it will seldom be relinquished through life. E.

For the New England Farmer.

HORTICULTURAL EXHIBITIONS.

Mr. Editor: The exhibitions of the various horticultural societies are the means of diffusing much valuable information with regard to fruits, as well as widely disseminating the best varieties for cultivation. At these shows are displayed the finest kinds collected from various sections, duly arranged and labelled for the inspection of the public; and here any one may select a list for himself, with the variety before him for examination, which is far better than to propagate those he has never seen. Information in regard to the productiveness and quality of the several kinds may be obtained from the society's reports, together with much other matter useful to the grower of fruit.

The many new and excellent kinds, cultivated at the present day, and the vast amount of fruit raised for the home and foreign market, may be in a great measure attributed to the labors of the various societies for the promotion of horticulture. New orchards are rising up on every hand, and old ones are regrafted with new and superior varieties, in order to produce fruit which will meet the demands of the public. The very best kinds should be selected in planting new orchards, and it requires some observation and experience to decide which are best among so many which are good. Many standard varieties are well known to nearly all. Should any one be unacquainted with the subject, there are those to whom he can apply for the desired information.

Much benefit might be derived from exhibitions of fruit in the several towns. A day set apart for the purpose, in autumn, would doubtless do much to promote the cause of horticulture, and would be attended with but trifling expense. It might be rendered a kind of holiday, in which all who pleased could participate with pleasure and profit; and this is more than we can say of some public days.

Many new and valuable varieties of fruit would be brought into notice, no doubt, by exhibitions of this kind, which otherwise might remain in obscurity — many fruits of first-rate excellence, which would never find their way to the state or county shows. Scions might be exchanged, by means of these exhibitions, and the best fruits become widely diffused. Many would attend in their own town who would not at a greater distance; and all, both young and old, as well as those of every political party or religious sect, could join in harmony in promoting a cause worthy the attention of all.

O. V. HILLS.

Editorial Remarks. — The suggestion of our friend is a good one; and we hope that arrangements will be made to have town exhibitions of fruit, as they will not only have an excellent effect in bringing forward many valuable kinds of fruits, which otherwise may be confined to their native spot, and finally decay, and be lost forever; but it would excite emulation, and induce thousands to engage in this delightful business who have never dreamed of doing any thing in the fruit line beyond the cultivation of a few crabbed apples.

In our boyhood, when budding and grafting were not practised in the circle of our observation, we were acquainted with some highly-valuable fruits, equal to the finest in the country; but those fine kinds were not propagated, and the trees died; or, from their being too numerous, or on good tillage land, they were cut down as cumberers of the ground, and they are lost — past without recall.

For the New England Farmer.

HENS.

Mr. Editor: I have been led, by the many flattering statements in your valuable sheet, to increase my flock of laying hens; but have thus far been sadly disappointed in the result. My hens have been confined to the roost and yard the whole season, have been regularly fed with all the different kinds of grain, as barley, buckwheat, corn, and oats, dough from corn meal, boiled potatoes, squash, &c., with green stuff from the garden, as lettuce, cabbage, beet, grass, &c., and yet the returns have not been equal to the expenditure. I never have been able to collect, as a general result, a dozen of eggs per day from my flock, which consists of about thirty hens, all told. A line or two more in reference to the kinds of fowls kept, and the diseases which have occurred among them, with my conclusions on the subject, will relieve your patience.

I commenced, last fall, to select, from the flocks of others, pullets of the Black pheasant breed, (called *everlasting layers*,) the Bolton Grays, and other names of the non-sitting breed; and well have they sustained their name, for they have scarcely sat long

enough to lay. In addition, I have from time to time selected the best looking native breeds, having regard to their laying propensities, to use for sitters: these I consider the most hardy, and on the whole the most profitable. Individuals of my flock have been attacked with weakness of the back and limbs, contraction of the cords of the feet, with a general drooping; and although removed from the flock, scarce ever recover. I have several fine cocks, three quarters grown, now suffering under this disease: they are now sitting on their haunches, with their claws grasped close together like a man's fist doubled up; if approached kindly, will commence walking on their feet doubled up, and continue so until they sit again; if aroused by a sudden fright, by great effort can expand the claws, and walk on them, contracting again when the fright subsides. Sometimes one limb is attacked, but generally both: these are the first symptoms, which are followed by general weakness and loss of appetite and death. My medicine has been first some cathartic, kernels of black pepper, assafœtida, &c. The result thus far in all cases has been death. Mr. Editor, forgive me for having been thus particular, if not tedious, in the hope that you or some other reader of your sheet would prescribe some known remedy for this disease. I come now to the following conclusion — that, in order to keep "everlasting layers" everlastingly laying, they must be everlastingly rambling about where they choose; in other words, they want, and must have their liberty. This with me they cannot, nor shall not have, from the middle of April to the middle of October: therefore to me they are unprofitable; and I shall on the 1st day of April next reduce my flock to twelve hens and a protector, or abandon the whole, unless some one of your contributors, in answer to the inquiries of J. S. of Mansfield, shall introduce me to a breed that love confinement, and that lay equally as well when restricted and in other respects well provided for.

Respectfully yours,

PROVIDENCE, *Sept.* 1849. A FRIEND.

EDITORIAL REMARKS. — Hens running at large are generally more healthy, and lay better, than those confined to a yard or house; yet, under the best of management, most hens will lay well when confined to rather narrow limits. There are occasionally exceptions to this general law, which cannot always be accounted for.

Fresh earth, containing a good share of gravel, should be furnished to hens, and old lime mortar, pounded or ground oyster shells or bones should be kept by them. Hens that have been raised within narrow limits will bear confinement much better than those that have been accustomed to ramble. They will be contented, having no disposition to enjoy that liberty which they never knew.

We have raised hens in a small yard, and kept them confined, and they have laid remarkably well, showing no disposition to ramble; but, on the contrary, when the gate was left open, and they had leisurely strolled away a short distance, at the ringing of a bell or other noise, they would run home with affright. Some breeds of hens are more quiet and better adapted, naturally, to confinement than others; yet much depends on education.

A friend once gave us an account of the produce of six Poland Top Knot hens, for one year. It was unusually large — over one hundred and fifty eggs to each fowl. In the month of June, the average to each hen was twenty-three eggs. These hens were limited to a very small yard.

Hens are liable to many diseases, when they are confined; and it is as much trouble to doctor a hen as it is to doctor a cow or an ox, and in either case the bill for medical aid would generally far exceed the value of a hen. Again, the diseases of hens are difficult to describe, and to prescribe for. There should be great care to prevent diseases, as they often prove fatal.

Hens generate diseases, and are liable to great injury from lice, where they roost in close houses in warm weather, while those running at large and roosting in the open air are healthy. The better way is to let them roost out door in summer, with only a covering over them, to keep off the rain.

GOOD FARMING.

Mr. John Johnston, near Geneva, has on his farm a cow, which probably gives more milk than any cow in the United States. Through the month of June, 1848, she gave forty-two quarts per day; and for five days she gave forty-five quarts per day; which is probably without any parallel in this country. From the cream only, they made fourteen and a half pounds of butter per week. Had they churned from the milk, they would have got more butter. The cow was milked three times a day. The only feed she got was grass in the pasture. She is of a roan color, half Durham and half native breed, and is seven years old. She is finely formed, and a handsome animal. She was raised by Mr. Johnston, who says she will be a good cow at twelve years or more. He has eight cows in his pasture of clover up to their knees, all fine animals, which it is a pleasure to look at.

Mr. Johnston is a Scotch farmer and grazier of great celebrity, and sells many fat cattle for New York. He has a farm of three hundred and six acres, in one compact body of land, on the east side of Seneca Lake, about three miles from Geneva, in fields of eight to eighteen acres, all in the best condition. One field of eighteen acres of Indian corn, last year, yielded eighty-three bushels of shelled corn per acre. One field of eight acres yielded ninety-one bushels and forty-five pounds of corn per acre; and a field of wheat, of sixteen acres, yielded forty-five bushels per acre. Mr. Johnston drains his land by underground draining, and has some miles of earthen pipes, (made at Waterloo,) which he has been laying the last eight years. From the rich feed in his pastures, the cattle are all in the best condition. He does not feed his grass down to the ground. This he calls bad farming, as the roots get scorched by the summer drought, and frozen in winter. But a covering of grass protects the roots from both, and also keeps the cattle in good condition. He has large barns, and yards and sheds for the cattle. In the yards, the cattle make large quantities of manure — from wheat straw. He carts no mud from meadows into his barn-yard. He puts the manure on the land in the fall, spreading and ploughing it in at once, and not letting it remain for the sun and wind to dry up.

He observed to the writer of this, that he never saw land too highly manured, but he had seen much land too little manured. Land will always give a return for all that is put upon it. The best proof of this is, that in the last twenty years, he has brought his farm from what was called *worn-out land*, to its present superior condition, not by borrowed capital, but solely by the proceeds of the farm itself, obtained

by his practical knowledge of good farming, combined with industry and economy.

A TRAVELLER.

— *Journal of Commerce.*

DIARRHOEA IN COLTS.

As soon as the disease is evident, the mare and colt must be taken from the pasture, if they were at grass, and their treatment must be different, according to the degree of appetite retained by the colt: if he eats or sucks heartily, give him cow's milk boiled with a little flour, and with warm injections of mullein, flaxseed tea, or slippery elm; if, on the contrary, the animal is without appetite, it is a sign that the evacuation is dangerous, and ought to be checked: give something more than a quarter of an ounce of assafœtida diluted in one of the above teas, which he must be made to swallow milk-warm; besides which, he must have injections morning and evening until the disease seems to be checked; then suppress the evening remedies, and suppress them entirely, as soon as the colt is evidently better. It is more prudent to keep the mare out of pasture, and feed her on dry hay, &c. A careful attendant on the colt will best know whether to continue the remedies or not. Mind that the mother's milk has a great influence on the colt. — *Kentucky Farmer.*

PLOUGHING.

The committee on ploughing, of the Bristol Agricultural Society, in their report at the late cattle show, make the following judicious remarks: —

The committee on ploughing are unwilling to commence their report without first making an effort to impress upon the minds of members of the society, that our object in coming together at this time, and at each and all our meetings, is to call into action our latent energies, to excite us to greater industry, and to wake up in our minds a spirit of inquiry into the best mode of doing the most labor, and doing it in the best manner, with the least or smallest means, and which will be more useful than a few paltry dollars and cents. The importance and utility of ploughing matches may be, yea, have been questioned by some persons; but as they are generally considered the most exciting and interesting part of the show, very few are found who discourage them, and no one who has made himself well and thoroughly acquainted with the subject will speak lightly of them.

All persons who are much advanced in life can well remember when no one thought of ploughing sward ground without four good oxen; and it was then often deemed necessary to add a horse; and a team of this size would always require, at least, one experienced driver, and often a boy in addition, to lead or ride the horse; but now the work is better done (as we have this day had abundant evidence) with one yoke of oxen and one hand. And this state of things has, in a great measure, been brought about by ploughing matches, which has led directly to the better training of cattle, and the general emulation excited by them has also led to great improvements in ploughs, as well as in the use of them.

Agriculturists should never forget that the finest and impalpable parts of the soil are the principal, if not the only actual portions in the vegetable growth; hence the necessity and importance of a thorough pulverizing; and I believe that the modern plough inverts the ground as well, if not better than any other instrument whatever.

The depth of ploughing is a subject about which men differ in opinion; and this depends much, as your committee think, upon the character and depth of the arable soil. But I suppose all will agree, that when the soil is loosened deep, it will cause the crops to be better guarded against drought, and also against a superabundance of rain. Honor is generally given to the victors in the conflict. But I have often thought of the vast difference to the world between victories obtained upon the battle-field, and those obtained upon the ploughing-field — the one sending weeping, distress, and death, while the other blesses the race with plenty, happiness, joy, and life. If mother Earth yielded her productions spontaneously to the inhabitants of the garden of Eden, she is not so indulgent now; for she must needs be continually stirred and vexed by the plough and the hand of cultivation, or her children will want.

The competitors have contended earnestly to-day, but fairly, manfully, and peaceably for the prize, bringing vividly to mind that passage of sacred writ, which predicts that swords shall be beat into ploughshares.

The committee suggest that lands somewhat unsubdued should always be selected for trial; otherwise it would be only to see who could do an easy thing best; and the lands this day selected were tolerably well suited to the purpose.

AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENTS.

That distinguished veteran farmer, Rev. Morrill Allen, in his report for the committee on improvements, of the Plymouth Agricultural Society, makes the following remarks on experiments: —

Many practical farmers take, as their surest guides in new processes, the results of experiments. This is well when it leads to no wrong views of the importance and uses of theory. The confinement of attention exclusively to practices established by custom would place an effectual obstacle to the progress of improvement. With a numerous class of farmers there is danger of falling into these confined views, and consequently neglect in the employment of necessary means of advancement. The deductions of scientific research do sometimes disappoint in their application to practice. It must be so, because some of the laws of vegetable life are beyond human reach; and hence the foundation of the cautions so often given not to practise extensively on any theory till its correctness has been proved in experience. If science will not at once and with certainty teach what to do, if the lessons of it must be subjected to the test of experience, the conclusion is easily formed, that it is of little or no importance in the art of agriculture, that we may as well proceed without its lessons, as labor in the attainment of them. These conclusions would be not less unjust than denunciations of theory in other occupations. Take for illustration the medical art: let the physician practise exclusively on theory, without any regard to the results of experience, and he would be very certain to kill the largest half of his patients. We do not on this account think science of little or no importance to the physician; we should esteem it the height of imprudence to commit the management of the body under disease to a man who, rejecting all teachings of science, should ground all his prescriptions exclusively on personal experience of the character and progress of disease.

All theories in the art of agriculture have been formed from observation and experience. The application of them in practice will be greatly affected by those numerous changes which are taking place in the composition of soils and the variations in seasons. What is the best practice in a particular location and

climate, science alone cannot show us; and without its aids, experiments would be little more than repetitions of processes, which altered circumstances should long since have rendered obsolete. Experiments worthy of any imitation, and worth recording, must embrace philosophical principles: the experimenter may know nothing of system, but his attention, care, and study have conducted him to conclusions strictly philosophical.

It is from carefully conducted experiments we anticipate the most important results in stimulating inquiry, and giving such new directions to labors as may conduce to general prosperity. We propose subjects for experiments, which every farmer in a measure understands already, but hope all who engage in the processes will avail themselves of every attainable assistance in extending their knowledge, that with clearer and more comprehensive views they may labor more efficiently, and realize greater gains. We wish to place motives before them to seek new light, and unite, as opportunities are presented, science with practice.

WAGONS AND CARTS.

A farmer in England, named Edward B. Liddington, has produced a prize essay on the comparative merits of wagons and carts, which should arrest the attention of our farmers; for if he is right, our farmers, in general, are wrong. After five years' experience with wagons, and nearly the same with one-horse carts, on a farm of one hundred and seventy acres of arable and eighty acres of pasture, he came to the conclusion that the carts were of the greatest advantage. As our farmers all use wagons, let them pay some attention to his statement. He says, "I have no light ploughing land, nor have I more than twenty or thirty acres of very heavy land. I will, therefore, relate my actual experience. In the employment of wagons and the old broad-wheeled dung-carts, I required one wagon, one cart, and three horses to every fifty acres of arable land. I also kept a light cart for general purposes. Now that I am employing carts, I find that I get through my work much more easily with two horses and two carts to fifty acres."

In the calculation of items, his saving was nearly four dollars on the cultivation of one acre, in the year. Again he says, it is admitted that one horse attached to a given weight will move it more easily than two horses attached to double that weight. This arises not only from the advantage gained by having all the power of draught close to the work, but also all the power applied at the same moment, which is almost impossible where two or more horses, having different wills and steps, are attached to the weight; and for the same reason, one horse will travel more quickly.

When a cart is filled, there is no delay in attaching the trace-horses, during which operation the one-horse would be two hundred yards on the road. I know this might be done more quickly by having men ready to change the horses, as in the practice of opposition coaches; but I am speaking of the matter-of-fact working of the system. Then again, when the load is deposited, the one horse turns in much less time than the two or three. These facts are too self-evident to admit of contradiction; indeed, I believe the economy of carting manure with one-horse carts is generally allowed; but the employment of them in harvesting is much objected to. In this respect, however, I find them equally expeditious and economical. My actual experience is, that three carts, with the harvest frames attached, will convey as much hay or corn in the straw as two wagons, and that they are bound with the ropes in the same time; therefore no time is lost in binding. They are easier to pitch into than wagons, and not more difficult to unload; and all the advantages are gained of speed in travelling.

My attention was first drawn seriously to the subject from hiring a man to draw some stones for draining. He came with a horse only fourteen hands high and a small cart, when the work he accomplished so surprised me that I at once decided to try two light carts, which, after succeeding well in all other operations, I employed in the harvest field; and being fully satisfied with them in this capacity, I soon discarded every wagon from the farm.—*Selected.*

WEST HIGHLAND CATTLE.

Among the breeds of Scotch cattle, which would be adapted to our more northern states, we may mention these. Like the Galloways they are rather adapted to the stall than the dairy; though it is possible that both breeds might, with attention, be much improved in their milking properties. Professor Low says of them,—

"The finest and largest of the native cattle of the Highlands are bred in Argyleshire and the neighboring islands. This character they owe to the greater development of their forms, to the superior herbage of the western coasts, but in a great degree likewise to the superior care bestowed in breeding. After the middle of last century, Archibald, Duke of Argyle, a worthy and patriotic individual, bestowed considerable attention in improving the cattle of the district surrounding his own seat of Inverary; and more recently, numerous gentlemen of the Western Highlands have devoted the most sedulous attention to the improvement of this breed. On these accounts, the variety of the Western Highlands is usually referred to as the model of the breed. It is well known to all breeders, that a certain class of external characters indicate a disposition to arrive at an early maturity of bone and muscle, and to become easily fat. The most essential of these characters are, a large, cylindrical body, dependent upon the greater curvature of the ribs, a body large with relation to the limbs, or, in other words, limbs short with relation to the body, a broad expanded chest, a skin soft to the touch and expansile, a relative smallness of the bones, and an absence of coarseness in the extremities. In certain breeds of the lower countries, these characters may be developed to a high degree; but in a country of mountains and heaths, with a cold, humid, ungenial climate, there must be combined with these a set of characters indicative of that hardiness of constitution, without which the animals would be unsuited to the condition in which they are placed. That extreme delicacy of form which can be easily communicated by breeding must be avoided. The hair, while it is silky, unctuous, and free from harshness, should be abundant and curling; the neck should be strong and muscular; the forehead rather broad; and the nose, from the eyes to the muzzle, short; a dewlap should exist as a character of the breed; the eyes should be prominent and clear; the horns should be of good length, without approaching to the coarseness of the long-horns of the lower country, spreading and tipped with black. Now, in the genuine West Highlanders, we shall find such a combination of these characters, as to show them to be well fitted to the country in which they are reared. Their limbs are short, though muscular, their chests wide and deep, their ribs well arched, and their backs as straight as in any other breed. The neck indeed, and dewlap, seem somewhat coarse in the bull; but these are characters indicative of their mountain state; and almost all

their other points are what breeders would term good. They are of various colors. A disposition exists in the breeders of the Highlands to cultivate the black color, as conceiving it to be more indicative of hardiness; and hence the greater number of the cattle of the Highlands are black. The cows of this breed, like those of many alpine districts, are deficient in the power of yielding milk. The milk they give is rich in cream, but it is in small quantity; and they very quickly tend to run dry."

PROFESSOR JOHNSTON'S ADDRESS.

We listened with great pleasure and instruction to the very able address of Professor Johnston, who recently left England for the purpose of examining the agriculture of this country and the provinces of British America. Though the address required a full hour and a half in the delivery, it was listened to with unflagging interest till its close. Its main features, after the introduction, consisted in a succinct history of the present state of European agriculture, as exhibited in the several countries, most of which he has personally visited. The latter part of the address was on miscellaneous topics connected with the subject, in which various important suggestions were made for the advancement of this great interest. We shall soon see this valuable address scattered broadcast over the Union, and hope it may reach every farmer's fireside.

We understand Professor Johnston will not return to Europe before the ensuing spring, and we earnestly recommend to every society or community, who can appreciate the benefits of agricultural science, that, for their own interest, they offer him such remuneration as will insure a course of his invaluable lectures. More particularly do we of New York owe it to ourselves and our community, that we secure from him a full course. This will come with much better effect from the Agricultural Board of the American Institute. The promotion of national objects and improvements should be one of its primary merits; and as the advancement of agriculture is professedly one of its leading objects, there will scarcely occur a more favorable opportunity of carrying out their patriotic purposes. Millions of American gold have here been worse than thrown away on English comedians and their cognate professions. An opportunity is now afforded where a few hundreds or thousands may be most worthily bestowed, and for our own lasting honor and advantage. We shall see if Americans have the enlightened self-interest, the wisdom to do it. — *American Agriculturist.*

PONDS.

Pastures that are destitute of water should have artificial ponds made in them for watering places. "Observe where rushes, weeds, flags, and other aquatic plants grow spontaneously; or where frogs are observed to lie squatted down close to the ground, in order to receive its moisture. Or observe where a vapor is frequently seen to rise from the same spot. Some say wherever little swarms of flies are seen constantly flying in the same place, and near the ground, in the morning after sunrise, there is water underneath." If a well is made in a sloping ground, and the declivity is enough to give it a horizontal vent, it will be worth the husbandman's while to dig such a passage, and by means of pipes or any other conveyance, to carry the water across the light soil, through which it might otherwise sink. The greatest quantity of water will be obtained in this manner, because there will be a continued stream. There is no difficulty in making a durable pond in a clayey soil. Let a large hollow basin be made in such earth, and it will preserve the water that falls in rain. But it is apt to be thick and dirty, if some pains be not taken to prevent it. The declivity by which the cattle enter should be paved, and gravel should be spread on the bottom. Or it might be better if the whole were paved.

There are many natural ponds which have outlets in one part, and are supplied by brooks and rivers in other parts; but a greater number of smaller ponds, which are perfectly stagnant, unless when they are agitated by winds. Such ponds as the latter, in hot seasons, are apt to become putrid and contaminate the air about them. For this reason, they should, if possible, be drained. And when the water is not deep, and an outlet can be made without too much cost, they should be drained for the purpose of reclaiming the soil. This will be of great value, as it is commonly found to be extremely rich, being made up of the finest particles of soil, wafted into them by winds, and of decayed vegetable substances, besides the fine mould washed into them by rains.

Many farms contain little sunken spots, which are most of the year covered with water, and produce some aquatic bushes and weeds. These are notorious harbors for frogs, and are therefore called *frog ponds*. They should be drained if it be practicable. It is commonly the case, however, that draining them in the common way, by making an outlet, would cost more than they would be worth when drained, because of the height of the land on every side. But in this case, if the banks be not clay, they may be drained in the following manner: —

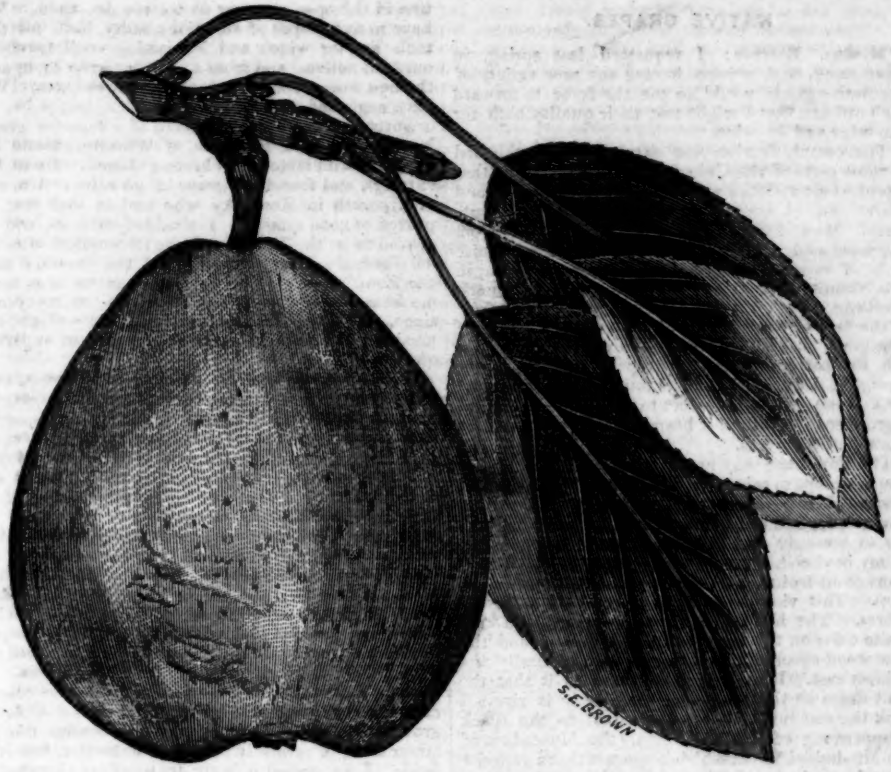
Take notice on which side land that is lower than the pond is nearest. On that side, in the bank near the pond, dig a kind of cellar, two or three feet deeper than the surface of the pond; do it in a dry season. If a hard stratum appear, dig through it; and leave digging when the bottom is loose gravel or sand. Then make an open or a covered drain from the pond to the cellar. The water will be discharged from the pond, and soak into the earth through the bottom of the cellar, till a scurf is formed on the bottom, that will stop the water from soaking into the earth. This scurf should be broken from time to time, and taken away with a long-handled hoe. Or the cellar may be filled up with the refuse stones, and I think it preferable to the other method.

If the pond should not become sufficiently dry, a small ditch should be drawn around it, and discharge itself into the cellar. The land that is thus gained will be rich muck, much of which may be carted away for manure; and common earth or sand may replace it without detriment to the soil. — *Practical Farmer.*

EXCRETORY DUCT OF THE FEET OF SHEEP.

Chancellor Livingston, first president of the New York State Agricultural Society, says the legs of sheep are furnished with a duct, which terminates in the fissure of the hoof; from which, when the animal is in health, is secreted a white fluid; but when sickly, these ducts are stopped by the hardening of the fluid. He says he has in some instances found that the sheep were relieved by merely pressing out the hardened matter with the finger from the orifice of the duct in each foot: it may in some cases be proper to place their feet in warm water, or to use a probe or hand brush for cleansing this passage. — *American Farmer.*

Rot in the Grape. — We understand the grape crop in this vicinity has been much injured by the rot. — *Cincinnati Gazette.*



THE BELLE LUCRATIVE PEAR.

Synonyms — *Fondante d'Automne, Beurre Lucrative, Bergamotte Lucrative.*

The Belle Lucrative is among our very best pears. When grown in a favorable location and ripened to perfection, it has but very few equals in quality. A warm, deep, sandy loam is the proper soil for this variety, as it has less character when grown in a moist, cool soil; and this is the case with many other foreign varieties.

The fruit is of medial size, (some specimens are rather large,) roundish-obovate; skin somewhat rough, pale-yellowish green, with slight russet, and sometimes a little brown full in the sun; stem medial length, rather stout, generally nearly straight, obliquely set in a slight cavity; calyx of medial size, open, in a moderate depression; flesh white, fine texture, very tender, melting, juicy, and of a rich, sugary, delicious, aromatic flavor. It ripens the latter part of September, and often continues into October. The tree is very vigorous, bears well, and flourishes on the pear or quince stock. It is only twelve or thirteen years since this variety first bore fruit in this country; yet it has been widely disseminated, and cultivated in gardens, but not thoroughly tested in orchard culture. So far as it has been proved, it is one of the most valuable pears that has been introduced into the country. It is of foreign origin, and Belgium is supposed to be its native place.

WHO WILL IMPORT SOME HUNGARIAN CATTLE?

Flieschman, in his report to the Commissioner of Patents, in 1847, makes mention of a breed of large, stately cattle in Hungary, which, from his description, must be among cattle what the children of Anak formerly were among men. Other writers have lately corroborated his statement. As Hungary is working out her independence against the combined despots of Europe, and as some of the Yankees may possibly be over there soon, or ought to be, sympathizing with her in a practical manner, we hope they will bring over some of these stately cattle.

"Among all the horned races of Europe," says he, "there are none which, with an equally colossal frame, approach so near the speed of the horse, as do the Hungarian oxen. It is a race of cattle, which, by dint of their high, stately growth, their long horns, (nearly six feet in length,) their proud and bold look, their broad breast, and handsome, white color, changing slightly to blue, and lastly the beautiful proportion of all their limbs, may fairly be pronounced to be one of the most useful and handsome productions of generating nature." — *Maine Farmer.*

Love of Fame. — The love of fame not regulated by principle, is more dangerous to the welfare of society than the love of money.

NATIVE GRAPES.

Messrs. Editors: I requested last spring, in your paper, that persons having any new variety of the native grape, would do me the favor to forward me cuttings, that I might test their quality both for the table and for wine.

The communication was extensively republished in most parts of the Union, and the result was, that twenty-four varieties were sent me in February and March last. I grafted them, and also planted cuttings. Most of the grafts are now in fruit, and from the wood and leaf, about one fourth of them promise to be of superior quality. All of them are now in this vicinity but two — the Olmsted and Minor's Seedling. Both of these are Fox grapes. The fruit of the first I have not seen; the second is the best Fox grape that I have seen. The pulp is unusually soft, for that family, and the grape remarkably sweet, though it does not contain as much saccharine matter as some grapes less sweet to the taste. It is not a great bearer, though it bears uncommonly well for a grape of that class.

The Fox grape may never be valuable for a wine grape, except to mix with others, to give aroma and flavor. I received cuttings of several varieties of Fox grapes, and the stem and leaf of most of them are so strongly fox, that they cannot be valuable. In my boyhood, I thought this grape the most delicious of all fruits, and I found some that bore a fair crop. This vine is easily distinguished from all others. The leaf is like leather — thick, and of a white color on the under side, and downy, and the new wood covered with a hairy down, generally of a reddish cast. It is a great objection to it that the fruit drops on the ground as soon as it is ripe. I rank the common class as about equal to the Black Scuppernong of North Carolina, (the Muscadine of the Mississippi,) from which it appears that a superior wine is made in North Carolina, by putting three pounds of sugar to the gallon, and which sold at four dollars by the gallon; and from two thousand to three thousand gallons are raised on an acre. Further, a horticulturist there tells us he also makes wine from the green grape; the same person who raises so large a quantity. Mr. Alves, of Kentucky, (formerly of North Carolina,) tells me they put from one fourth to one third of spirits to the gallon, and sell the wine from seventy-five cents to one dollar per gallon: a wide difference in price this. The North Carolina Horticulturist seems learned in the manufacture of foreign wines, as he tells us that one third of brandy is added to port, malmsey, and Madeira wine. This will be news indeed to the European wine merchants.

The Black Scuppernong bears from one to four berries on a bunch, and would, in times of war, if lead be scarce, be as valuable, even when fully ripe, as the Fox grape, for bullets. The White Scuppernong also has a very small bunch, and is a better grape than the Black. But the skin is thick, and the pulp hard: it will never be valuable as a wine grape, unless to give to others must, aroma, and flavor.

Our vineyards may have produced eight hundred, and probably one thousand gallons on an acre; but no vineyard has averaged three hundred gallons for ten years. I believe ground with a mixture of sand, or such as will freely let the rains sink, will be less subject to rot, and average double the crop produced, where the subsoil is a stiff clay.

I shall be gratified to receive letters from all persons having new varieties of hardy grapes in their vicinity, describing the character of the wood and leaf, color, size, and quality of the fruit, &c. After importing foreign grapes for thirty years, from all latitudes, I have never found one worthy of cultivation in the open air; nor do we require them. We have native grapes of superior quality, both for the table and for wine; and by raising seedlings from our best natives, and from a cross between them and the best foreign, we can greatly improve them. We have neglected our native grapes.

Forty-five years since, I heard of a superior grape in the garden of Mr. Zane, of Wheeling, found by him in a wild state on Wheeling Island. I sent for cuttings, and found the grape of no value. I heard of a person in Kentucky who had it, and that it proved of good quality. I obtained cuttings, and it proved to be the Vevay, or Cape (Schuylkill Muscadel) grape. I am now satisfied that neither was the Zane grape. I, this spring, had cuttings sent me from a vine got of Mr. Zane some thirty years since, and which has never got out of the neighborhood, and which I doubt not will prove of superior quality.

A native grape, of different aroma and flavor, and in all respects equal to the Catawba, would be worth millions of dollars to the nation. If my correspondents do not err, some of the kinds sent me are superior. The origin of the Catawba is in doubt. Major Adlum first brought it into notice, having found it, some twenty-five years since, in the garden of a German, near Washington city.

I received, recently, an interesting letter from Mr. Alves, of Henderson, Kentucky. He was born in North Carolina, and says he heard of the Catawba grape in the upper part of North Carolina forty years ago, and that it was discovered near the Catawba River, from which it derived its name. A grape, precisely the same, is said to have been discovered in a wild state, a few years since, in Pennsylvania. I have one from the south-west, of the same color, aroma, and flavor, but smaller, and the vine of slow growth, and a poor bearer; and one bearing much larger fruit, of precisely the same character, but inferior. I discovered it in the centre of my vineyards, and know not how it came there. — N. Longworth, *in Cincinnati Gazette.*

TO DESTROY BRIERS.

The brier, as a plant, grows more luxuriantly in beech and maple land; and when the timber is cleared and the sun has a chance for action, they grow very fast, so that, in a short time, it is with difficulty that they are kept down. In the spring of '45, I moved on a new farm, containing two hundred acres and upwards, with about forty-five acres improved, or partially so. There was at the time eight or ten acres completely grown up to briers. I commenced operations on about half of it; I ploughed it thoroughly and planted to corn. By the time the corn was up ready for hoeing, the briers had completely overrun it. I hoed it and cleared it, and by the second hoeing it was as bad as ever. I then went over it the same way the third time. In fact, the more I hoed and tried to destroy them, the faster they grew; and by the time of harvesting, they had grown half as high as the corn. The next spring I sowed it to oats, and was poorly paid. At the time of harvesting, my hands were much torn and lacerated by the briers, besides not having half a crop. I then concluded to try some more efficient mode, having become tired of endeavoring to subdue them by cutting. I then sowed the ground to clover. The briers came up as usual, but looked sickly. The year following, I pastured it with sheep; and now the briers have almost become extinct. I have tried every mode in the way of cutting, and I am persuaded that it is labor lost. I have tried cutting in the dark of the moon, and in August, all to no purpose. I am of the opinion that clover is the best

means of getting rid of them, being quick and profitable. J. R. K.

Crawford Co., Pa., 1849.

— *Philadelphia Dollar Newspaper.*

Remarks by Editor N. E. Farmer. — We have no doubt that the briers were destroyed more by the sheep than by the clover; for they will not flourish where sheep run among them; yet the clover had an excellent effect in inviting the sheep among the brambles. It is very common in agricultural experiments to ascribe effects to wrong causes; and it is the same in other sciences. During this season, we have seen accounts of the valuable effects of sulphur for cholera, but we noticed that it was given with charcoal; and we have no doubt that the charcoal was the principal remedial agent, as it is excellent in diarrhœa, which usually attends the cholera, and causes a sudden prostration of strength. Sheep alone, if induced, by any grass, to go among briers, will cause their complete destruction; perhaps from the oil in the wool.

PARSNIPS.

A correspondent has written to inquire "whether we know, by our own experience, the quality of the parsnip for feeding and fattening pigs." In answer, we beg to state, that, at our farm at Catlands Bingmea, we have been in the habit of employing parsnips for that purpose for some time. Upon reference to our books, we find that on the 11th of October, 1847, we put up two shotes of eleven weeks old, and fed them on skim milk and parsnips, for three months, when they were killed, weighing two hundred and thirty-one and two hundred and thirty-eight pounds. They were well fattened, firm in flesh, and the meat of excellent flavor. The quantity of parsnips consumed by them was nine bushels each. — *Sussex [English] Express.*

Remarks. — We have often wondered that no account is made of this valuable root. All the world is alive to the value of the carrot; while this esculent is entirely overlooked. That the parsnip contains more saccharine matter than the carrot, or even any of the beets, we are satisfied. A very excellent wine is made of it, which we venture to assert cannot be made from any other of the whole root crop. Its estimation as an edible for the table also tells in its favor. And a herd of hogs turned into a field containing bagas, beets, carrots, and parsnips, would not be long in settling the question which they like the best; and as they cannot read the Genesee Farmer, and are not influenced by any of our blundering theories, and trust alone to experience, and that unerring guide that nature has provided them in the place of reason, we are disposed to give them the credit of being very capable judges — very.— *Genesee Farmer.*

PLANTING TREES.

The most remarkable, if not the most culpable, neglect, — that which indicates an unamiable and uncultivated, as well as improvident nature, — is the omission, on the part of gentlemen in the country, to plant trees about their homesteads, for shade and ornament, if not for fruit and profit. Let any one who would be convinced how easy it would be to provide, in a few years, even in the most exposed and barren situations, all the beauty and luxury of a natural forest, only walk as far as the Lunatic Asylum, between Spruce and Pine Streets, Philadelphia, and see how thriving is every one of the handsome trees so thoughtfully planted out there last autumn, at the instance of Mr. Cresson, in anticipation of the failure, some years hence, of the old sycamores. The work is only to be once well done, and the trees well protected, and then they may be left to endure forever, as monuments of the good taste of the planter, transmitting his memory with gratitude to posterity.

We remember now, at the moment of scribbling this hasty but earnest exhortation to all our young friends to plant trees — maples, horse chestnuts, locusts, linden-trees, (any thing but Lombardy poplars,) — that there is in the garden, near the house at Duoraghen Manor, Maryland, the classic residence of the late venerable Charles Carroll of Carrollton, a weeping willow, stately and graceful, like her who planted it when a child, that will always be associated with the name of Mrs. Caton. How much more are such memorials to be coveted than monuments stained with blood and cemented with the tears of the widow and the orphan! — *The Plough, Loom, and Anvil.*

AMOUNT OF MINERAL MATTER ASSIMILATED BY VARIOUS CROPS.

It is found, on analysis, that an acre of wheat, being an average crop, carries off with it no less than two hundred and ten pounds of inorganic elements, viz.: thirty pounds in the grain, and one hundred and eighty pounds in the straw — a striking proof of the importance of consuming the straw upon the land. Barley takes two hundred and thirteen pounds — fifty-three in the grain, and one hundred and sixty in the straw. Oats take three hundred and twenty-six pounds — thirty-two in the grain, thirty in the husks, fifty-four in the chaff, and two hundred in the straw. A crop of turnips, of twenty tons per acre, when removed off the land, carries off six hundred and fifty pounds of mineral matter. Potatoes, including the tops, take off five hundred and eighty pounds, the tops containing about four hundred pounds. Cabbage carries off nearly one thousand pounds. — *Huxtable.*

IRON FOR APPLE-TREES.

A correspondent of the Albany Cultivator, writing from Fredericksburg, Va., says, "A friend who has a large orchard of 'Rawle's Jannett apple,' has ten trees upon one corner of the orchard which always produce fruit a third larger, and flavor so much superior, that it was supposed by all who saw and ate the apple, that they were a superior variety of the Jannett. This spring I examined the soil, and found that a vein of iron ore passed just under the ten trees, so near the surface that it had been ploughed and worked up with the top soil. A variety of the large Blue plum growing upon the same ground, is also very fine; while grafts taken from the same plum-trees, and worked upon stocks grown on different soil, prove worthless." — *Maine Farmer.*

IRON. Value of Labor

A pound of iron in a crude state is, perhaps, worth a cent. It is converted, we will suppose, into steel, and then into watch springs. Now, according to a calculation made in a work upon this subject, there are 7000 grains in a pound weight, and every watch spring weighs a tenth of a grain. 70,000 watch-springs, worth, say $2 each, yield $140,000 for the pound of iron, or rather for the labor expended upon it.

Domestic Department.

THE EFFECTS OF COSMETICS ON THE SKIN. — The deep interest I take in the moral improvement of my young countrywomen, more particularly those who are so fortunate as to be the wives and daughters of farmers, must be my apology for the following remarks upon the article in the January number of the Agriculturist, on the "Effects of Cosmetics on the Skin." I shall therefore ask no other excuse for expressing my difference of opinion, nor for pointing out what I conceive to be mistaken views on the subject, feeling very sure that a little serious reflection will bring your correspondent over to my old-fashioned way of thinking. Let me say, however, that I agree entirely with her observations on the different kinds of soap, alcoholic preparations, &c.

We know that all kinds of soap are more or less injurious to a delicate skin, and in cold weather their too frequent use should be dispensed with as much as possible; but when necessary, the skin should be protected afterwards, for a little while, from the air. Therefore, when cleanliness requires it for the face and neck, they should be washed just before retiring at night; and in the morning, nothing more will be wanted than the usual sponge bath of pure, cold, soft water, and a coarse rubber vigorously applied. Some skins will chap under the most careful treatment that can be bestowed upon them; while others will continue soft and smooth, though exposed to every wind that blows, and seem to be proof against all kinds of domestic labor. For the first of these, the best purifier would be corn or bean meal, or palm-oil soap, followed by a few drops of honey rubbed on while the hands are wet. Fine dry salt acts very pleasantly on the skin, rendering it soft and smooth, and has also the advantage of strengthening the system, on which account it is highly recommended by physicians. The best way to apply it is, to draw on a pair of very coarse cotton or linen knitted gloves, that have been frequently dipped in strong salt and water, and dried after each immersion, and with them rub until the skin looks red, and the blood circulates freely.

But it is the second part of your correspondent's remark that I intend particularly to notice. That the writer does not speak from personal experience I think is evident, or she would not say that "rouge can be employed, without injury, to brighten a lady's complexion."

Every school girl knows that even the common carmine in her paint box, if put on the cheeks with water, cannot be washed out without leaving a permanent mark. I have been much in fashionable French society, where the use of rouge was not only considered unblameworthy, but in certain cases openly vindicated; yet its deleterious effects upon the skin were undoubted, and openly lamented, as producing a sallow stain, which, as it cannot be removed by ordinary means, makes a continuance of the bad practice seem necessary. And a bad practice it is, in sober sadness, for any woman; but for women living in this bright, beautiful country, for the wives and daughters of American farmers, even to *think* of using rouge and pearl powder, would be ridiculous, could it be contemplated in any other light than as a degradation — they, too, who enjoy the glorious privilege, not to be too highly prized, of living in the pure, health-giving breath of heaven, — who are at liberty to exercise daily on horseback, and roam at will over hills and fields. I will not think so badly of them as to suppose that they would condescend to tolerate the use of such miscalled *beautifiers*. It is true, a pale cheek is not esteemed so lovely as the one tinged with

"Celestial rosy red, love's proper hue;"

nor is a dark or coarse skin thought so desirable as one fairer and more delicate. But does not every one know instances, among their friends, of faces by nature ugly, to which intelligence, benevolence, and good temper impart the characters of real, soul-like beauty? Believe me, God's handiwork cannot be improved. And the admiration of strangers is dearly purchased by the loss of the respect of those in whose eyes and hearts alone it should be their ambition to appear to advantage; for the mistaken ones, who resort to these paltry arts, do not deck their faces with rouge and pearl powder, to make themselves more lovable to their husbands and brothers. It is not put on when they alone are to see them. No: any garb, any faded looks, will do for the beings who ought to make their hearts happiest; with whom they are to pass their lives. For whom, then, it may be asked, are they willing to take so much trouble? They who know from experience may answer.

All substances, without a single exception, that are, or can, be used to "impart a delicate white tint to the complexion," are decidedly injurious; marring what they are intended to mend.

The "metallic compounds" are justly said to be poisonous; and the effect, even when sparingly used, is to make the skin look parched and glazed. Magnesia, being a mineral substance, is not much less hurtful; and powdered starch, though the least objectionable of any, is seriously injurious by the mechanical action of closing the pores of the skin, preventing the escape of the insensible perspiration which would keep it clear and moist, and finally producing a sickly, unnatural thickness, that makes a fair girl, who would otherwise be pretty, look like Jersey veal, bled slowly to death by the butcher! and a brunette more like a piece of old parchment than a lovely young daughter of Eve. Of such a one, in a neighboring city, I heard a physician remark, that this disagreeable appearance, being only skin deep, could be easily removed by the application of a vegetable blister!

But I must close this already too long notice; though something might be said of the pangs of wounded vanity that these short-sighted fair ones would suffer, if

"Some power the gift would gie them
To see themselves as others see them;"

when a warm day, or a little over exertion, by producing a free perspiration, throws off the beautifiers, leaving the white in disclosed streaks, and the red in unsightly blotches, to the mortification of their friends, and the badly-disguised amazement of the very persons they wished to charm. American women should be ashamed to appear under "false colors."

It has been often asked why the women of England have better complexions and more healthful looks than those of the United States. The humidity of the climate is doubtless one cause of the greater and more lasting delicacy of the skin; but the bright bloom of their cheeks is the effect of regular, systematic exercise. English ladies, of even the highest rank, wear thick leather shoes, and walk every day six or eight miles, without regard to the weather, and with no other object than the preservation of health.

I will close with the assurance, affectionately urged upon all who have had patience to read thus far, that early rising, cold-water bathing, and daily exercise in the open air, as they promote health and cheerfulness, are the only cosmetics that an American woman should dare employ. — *American Agriculturist.*

SHRINKING OF FLANNEL. — Enclose new flannel in a bag; put it into a boiler with cold water; heat

and boil it. It will never shrink any more after this operation, and should then be made up into garments. — *Selected.*

To purify River or any other Muddy Water. — Dissolve half an ounce of alum in a pint of warm water, and stirring it about in a puncheon of water just taken from any river, all the impurities will soon settle to the bottom, and in a day or two it will become as clear as the finest spring water.

Boys' Department.

Politeness at Home. — Always speak with the utmost politeness and deference to your parents and friends. Some children are polite and civil every where else except at home; but *there* are coarse and rude enough. I trust you will never be one of these.

Titles of respect, too, should not be forgotten. "Yes, sir," and "No, sir," "Yes, ma'am," and "No, ma'am," sound much better, as well as much more refined and well-bred, than the blunt "Yes," and "No," which very many children in these days are accustomed to use.

Nothing sits so gracefully upon children, and nothing makes them so lovely, as habitual respect and dutiful deportment towards their parents and superiors. It makes the plainest face beautiful, and gives to every common action a nameless but peculiar charm. — *Selected.*

Bad Books. — Bad books are like ardent spirits: they furnish neither aliment nor medicine; they are poison. Both intoxicate — one the mind, the other the body. The thirst for each increases by being fed, and is never satisfied. Both ruin — one the intellect, and the other the health — and together, the soul. The makers and venders of each are equally guilty, and equally corrupters of the community; and the safeguard against each is the same — total abstinence from all that intoxicates mind or body. — *The Well-Spring.*

Health.

Effect of Stoves upon Health. — All experience has demonstrated their debilitating influence upon the nervous system; and nothing is more true than that the mind sympathizes with the body in all its derangements. Our old men remember when the aggregate of good health was far above its present standard; when men and women could endure twice the fatigue that they can now; and when consumption, the present scourge of the north, and New England in particular, was almost unknown, or existed only as a slow disease, that had to battle with life for many years before its strong victim succumbed to its power. It has been thought that the bad health and constitutions of our farming population, particularly the female portion of farming families, are owing to a change of diet. There is no truth in the idea. Farmers live as judiciously now as they did fifty or one hundred years ago. On our mountain towns, among the primitive hills and pure air of Vermont, all over New England in fact, the population are better fed and better clothed, are subjected to less injurious exposure, and are called to bear less prostrating fatigue, than in those "good old times, a hundred years ago." Yet, where the pure air roves freest, where the dark wings of miasm never come, all along the beautiful green mountain ridge, through Vermont and Massachusetts, do we find consumption doing its deadliest work, and an aggregate of female invalids that can hardly be equalled in any miasmatic valley in the far south-west.

It is in vain to look for the causes of all these evils in any thing but the atmosphere of the dwelling. The food is wholesome, the air as pure as any in the world, and the water as good. The simple statement of the case is, that the houses are made too close, the rooms are kept too hot, and the grand ventilator — the chimney — is closed. The evil is insidious, and in the manner of its approach should be a warning. A reference to experience will show, that when the stove was first introduced, the heat was intolerable. Afterwards it became agreeable; then it was found necessary; still further on, the heat was raised, until, at last, the weakened and relaxed skin shrunk with dread from a breath of cold air, and all stirring from the room was forbidden on penalty of a cold. The difference between the atmosphere out and in doors made the transition always attended with danger. Every physiologist, and every common observer, understands the intimate sympathy that exists between the skin and the lungs; and here, at this point, is where consumption and other similar and dissimilar evils step in, and find prepared for them a house, swept and garnished. Here lies the secret of mountain diseases, the erysipelas, low fevers, rheumatisms, etc., etc.

We by no means propose the abolition of stoves. They form a prominent part of family economy. The poor cannot do without them, nor will the rich. The fire and the damper should in all cases be controlled by the thermometer. This little instrument should be in every house. Again, free ventilation, that shall secure to every room good pure air, is absolutely indispensable; and still further, a proper amount of cold bathing and friction, to enable the skin to retain its tone, should be observed by every individual who spends the winter in doors. — *Springfield Rep.*

Mechanics' Department, Arts, &c.

Construction of Ice-Houses. — Abroad both the ice-house and hot-house are portions of the wealthy man's establishment solely. But in this country, the ice-house forms part of the comforts of every substantial farmer. It is not for the sake of ice-creams and cooling liquors, that it has its great value in his eyes, but as a means of preserving and keeping in the finest condition, during the summer, his meat, his butter, his delicate fruit, and in short, his whole perishable stock of provisions. Half a dozen correspondents lately have asked us for some advice on the construction of an ice-house, and we now cheerfully offer all the information in our possession.

To build an ice-house in sandy or gravelly soils, is one of the easiest things in the world. The drainage there is perfect; the dry and porous soil is of itself a sufficiently good non-conductor. All that is necessary to do, is to dig a pit twelve feet square and as many deep, line it with logs or joists faced with boards, cover it with a simple roof on a level with the ground, and fill it with ice. Such ice-houses, built with trifling cost, and entirely answering the purpose of affording ample supply for a large family, are common in various parts of the country.

But it often happens that when one's residence is upon a strong loamy or clayey soil, based upon clay or slate, or, at least, rocky in its substratum. Such a soil is retentive of moisture; and even though it be well drained, the common ice-house just described will not preserve ice half through the summer in a locality of that kind. The clayey or rocky soil is always damp: it is always an excellent conductor,

and the ice melts in it in spite of all the usual precautions.

Something more than the common ice-house is therefore needed in all such soils. "How shall it be built?" is the question which has been frequently put to us lately.

To enable us to answer this question in the most satisfactory manner, we addressed ourselves to Mr. N. J. Wyeth, of Cambridge, Mass., whose practical information on this subject is probably fuller and more complete than that of any other person in the country — he, for many years, having had the construction and management of the enormous commercial ice-houses, near Boston — the largest and most perfect known.

We desired Mr. Wyeth's hints for building an ice-house for family use, both above ground and below ground.

In the beginning, we should remark that the great ice-houses of our ice-companies are usually built above ground; and Mr. Wyeth, in his letter to us, remarks, "We now never build or use an ice-house under ground; it never preserves ice as well as those built above ground, and costs much more. I, however, send you directions for the construction of both kinds, with slight sketches in explanation." The following are Mr. Wyeth's directions for building: —

1st. *An Ice-House above Ground.* — An ice-house above ground should be built upon the plan of having a double partition, with the hollow space between filled with some non-conducting substance.

In the first place, the frame of the sides should be formed of two ranges of upright joists, six by four inches; the lower ends of the joists should be put into the ground without any sill, which is apt to let the air pass through. These two ranges of joists should be about two feet and one half apart at the bottom, and two feet at the top. At the top these joists should be mortised into the cross beams which are to support the upper floor. The joists in the two ranges should be placed each opposite another. They should then be lined or faced on one side, with rough boarding, which need not be very tight. This boarding should be nailed to those edges of the joists nearest each other, so that one range of joists shall be outside the building, and the other inside the ice-room or vault.

The space between these boardings or partitions should be filled with wet tan, or sawdust. The reason for using wet material for filling this space is, that during winter it freezes, and until it is again thawed, little or no ice will melt at the sides of the vault.

The bottom of the ice-vault should be filled about a foot deep with small blocks of wood; these are levelled and covered with wood shavings, over which a strong plank floor should be laid to receive the ice.

Upon the beams above the vault, a pretty tight floor should always be laid, and this floor should be covered several inches deep with dry tan or sawdust. The roof of the ice-house should have considerable pitch, and the space between the upper floor and the roof should be ventilated by a lattice window at each gable end, or something equivalent, to pass out the warm air which will accumulate beneath the roof. A door must be provided in the side of the vault, to fill and discharge it; but it should always be closed up higher than the ice, and when not in use should be kept closed altogether.

2. *An Ice-House below Ground.* — This is only well made by building up the sides of the pit with a good brick or stone wall, laid in mortar. Inside of this wall set joists, and build a light wooden partition against which to place the ice. A good floor should be laid over the vault, as just described; and this should also be covered with dry tan or sawdust. In this floor the door must be cut, to give access to the ice.

As regards the bottom of the vault, the floor, the lattice window in the gables for ventilation, etc., the same remarks will apply that have just been given for the ice-house above ground, with the addition that in one of the gables, in this case, must be the door for filling the house with ice.

If the ground where the ice-houses of either kind are built is not porous enough to let the melted ice drain away, then there should be a waste pipe to carry it off, which should be slightly bent, so as always to retain enough water in it to prevent the passage of air upward into the ice-houses.

These plain and concise hints by Mr. Wyeth will enable our readers, who have failed in building ice-houses in the common way, to remedy their defects, or to construct new ones on the improved plan just given. The main points, it will be seen, are, to place a sufficient non-conducting medium of tan or sawdust, if above ground, or of wall and wood partition, if below ground, to prevent the action of the air, or the damp soil, on the body of the ice enclosed in the vault.

Mr. Wyeth has not told us how large the dimensions of an ice-house built on either of these modes should be, to provide for the use of an ordinary family through a season; but we will add, as to this point, that a cube of twelve to fourteen feet "in the clear," every way will be quite large enough, if properly constructed. An ice-house, the vault of which is a cube of twelve feet, will hold about fifty tons of ice. One of this size, near Boston, filled last January, is still half full of ice, after supplying the wants of the family all the season.

In the ice-houses above-ground, the opening being in the side, it will be best to have a double door, one in each partition, opposite each other. The outer one may be entire, but the inner one should be in two or three parts. The upper part may be opened first, so that only so much of the ice may be exposed at once, as is necessary to reach the topmost layers. — *Horticulturist.*

ON THE NATURE OF SOILS.

An all-wise Creator, for some all-wise purpose, decreed that plants and animals should derive their subsistence from the soil; hence we find all the elements of vegetable and animated nature in the soil. For instance, in most soils we find iron abundant; then, if we look into the animal economy, we find iron in the blood and muscles of both man and the lower orders of brute creation. And the wonder-working chemist detects nature in using the same ingredient in coloring all the fruits and flowers. All things having once been created, the making principle stopped, and a changing one immediately took its place, and has never ceased to act since mutability was indelibly stamped upon all creation. In the formation of plants and animals, Nature, gradually collecting her materials, slowly forms her most perfect specimens; but like a human mechanic, inasmuch as she lacks one or more of the materials, in the same degree is her fabric imperfect. Thus we see that if the soil in the field lacks one or more ingredients in the formation of a vegetable, the plant assumes a dwarfish, sickly appearance, like an animal robbed of its food. Now, the farmer, to be a good husbandman, must plant the germ, and place around it all the materials of which it should be composed; then Nature, the handy-workman, soon rears the perfect plant.

The question now arises, what those ingredients and materials are. The chemist has given us all the knowledge he has on the subject: the air and

the water, the soil and the subsoil, have each a part in their possession, and should each be made to contribute a share. Nature, in the production of a perfect plant, does not restrict herself to the animal, vegetable, or mineral world. The opinion so generally prevalent that the soil, two or three feet below the surface, must consequently be entirely barren and useless, may be, and doubtless is, erroneous in many instances, especially in that called *hard pan*. If, in producing the perfect plant, nature needs twenty ingredients, nineteen may possibly be found in the surface soil, while the twentieth may be found in the subsoil. Instances have occurred where a good dressing from soil ten feet deep, entirely destitute, to all appearance, of vegetable matter, have had equally as good, or the same beneficial effect, as a good dressing of gypsum. This is truly an age of improvement. Many a farmer has found, while others have yet to find, a mine of wealth below the reach of his plough, of which he was as unconscious as the mountain of its ore. It is very reasonable to suppose, that the newly-created world was at first entirely a mineral mass of matter, from which vegetables soon grew abundantly enough to support all animated nature. Geologists generally suppose the action of the elements, for an indefinite length of time, was necessary to fit it for the abode of plants and animals; but be that as it may, I believe the action of frost upon ploughed fields, with the winter's rain and snow, to be a powerful fertilizer in this climate. Hence, fall ploughing and deep ploughing should go together, and be followed by heavy dressings of manure, and particularly such as the soil lacks, is my creed, derived from experience, and as such, I firmly believe it true. LABORER.

Abington, Centre County, Pa., 1849.

Philadelphia Dollar Newspaper.

PROGRESS.

Lightning and steam have not only superseded horse power on land, and wind on the water, but, with as astonishing a revolution, they have quickened the human brain, until the ideas of the age are equally more rapid than those of half a generation ago, as are the means of transmitting them from brain to brain the world over. In the day of wooden ploughs, the great danger was in going too fast and knowing too much; now the difficulty is to go fast enough, and know enough. The fear, so groundless with our good old fathers, that new inventions and enterprises were dangerous to the welfare, virtue, and peace of society, is completely extinguished. Men have found out the essential secret of prosperity and greatness — that all progress is the work of experience; and the result of experiments, in spite of the old stand-still philosophy, has sharpened them to go on experimenting more and more elsewhere, in all fields, paths, and professions. Thus have they curbed and saddled teams, tamed lightning, cast by wooden ploughs, and in a thousand ways advanced and exalted themselves, physically and mentally, as individuals and as nations. — *Selected.*

POSTS UPHEAVED BY THE FROST.

We observe post fence, in certain spots, to rise up annually more and more, until, after a few years, swine can creep under; and it often leans so much, that props become necessary to prevent its falling.

Now, what is the cause of this upheaving? On examining, we find that these spots are wetter, and the ground more spongy, than the other parts of the line. Well, what then? Why, in severely cold weather, the wet surface freezes, fastening round the post a solid cake, under which is applied the great power of water expanding into ice, and the fence is lifted up. The intensity of the frost, and the looseness or wetness of the ground, will determine the amount of upheaval, which may be one or more inches in a winter. Perhaps, indeed, the post may fall back a little when it thaws; but it seldom, if ever, slides back to the bottom of the hole, and is sure to take a new start upward in the following winter.

In these insurrectionary movements, several posts are generally concerned together; and the best way that I have found to reduce them, is to strike with a beetle, only a few strokes at a time, on the head of each, so that the fence shall not be racked by driving too far at once. When thoroughly driven back, the operation may not need to be repeated in less than two or three years. It would be the better and cheaper way, however, to prevent all such risings in future by filling up the holes with solid earth, and thoroughly pounding or ramming down every new layer of two or three inches in thickness. All soft muck, or spongy soil, should be rejected. Nothing better than hard pan can be obtained for this purpose — at least, a mixture of gravel or small stones through the earth is desirable. With these precautions, we should have no trouble, even in swales; for the posts even there would stand in dry, firm, solid earth. W. W.

Squancum, N. J., 1849.

— *Philadelphia Dollar Newspaper.*

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

Of Dr. Rufus Kittredge, Portsmouth, N. H., some large sweet apples, very fine indeed for baking Green Sweeting, distinguished for its very late keeping. Baldwin apples. These grew on a tree taken from the original tree in Tewksbury, which we shall notice further, by and by, in regard to the origin of the Baldwin apple.

From James Oliver, Lynn, Diana grapes, of excellent quality. Friend Oliver says of this grape, that it is probably a cross between the Catawba and White Sweetwater; that it is two weeks earlier than the Isabella, of rather slow growth, and a good bearer. He regards it as a superior kind for out-door culture. We have cultivated this grape a few years; but as our first vine is in a cool soil, and shady situation, and we have forced it into the growth of wood rather than the production of fruit, we have a large growth.

Of Elisha Tower, of this city, fine apples, raised by J. F. Fay, Northboro'. The seed of the original tree was planted by Mr. Fay's mother, forty years ago. This is very handsome and excellent fruit; rather large, pale yellow striped with red, very crisp, juicy, of a mild and fine aromatic flavor.

From M. L. Hayes, Farmington, N. H., pears grown on an apple stock. Three years ago, in grafting an apple-tree, Mr. Hayes set some pear scions into one branch by mistake; they flourished well, and healed over sound; and this, the third year from grafting, that branch produced half a bushel of pears; and he says, if the whole tree had been grafted to pears, and yielded as well as this branch, the produce would have been six bushels. This is a very successful experiment, or *incident*, in grafting the pear on the apple. These pears are rather large,

fair, pleasant, and melting. Mr. H. supposed that he set scions of the St. Michael; but these are not like that variety in form, color, or quality, nor do they seem like any kind generally cultivated.

From Colonel F. R. Bigelow, Medford, very good St. Michael pears. Mr. B. informs us that this variety failed until he hung old iron on the tree, as had been recommended by some cultivators. It has been supposed that iron around or on a tree furnishes that element, by the rust being taken up in solution by the sap. But we would remark, that this variety of pear has generally done remarkably well this season, without the aid of iron; so it may be the season, not the mineral element, that has effected the improvement. If iron hung on a tree ever has a good effect, it may be from its electrical quality, rather than from a deficiency of this element in the soil to supply this constituent of the tree. Oregon corn, which he has been acclimating by cultivating several years. It resembles the many-rowed corn of the south, excepting the ear is shorter, and the stalks are much less in height.

Of E. W. M'Intosh, Needham, pretty good native grapes. Of all the native wild grapes that we have tried this season, those from Captain Amos Perry, South Natick, are the best.

Of John Tilson, South Boston, fine specimens of Isabella and Catawba grapes. The latter are of remarkably large bunches. Under ordinary management, this variety has rather small and loose bunches; but skilful culture produces noble, compact bunches, and large berries.

Of R. W. Annable, Portsmouth, N. H., pears from a garden in that town. They are large, fair, handsome, and very sweet. They would sell well in market, but they lack the high character of our best varieties in quality. The kind is not known in this section.

Of Charles Pierce, Milton, three lots of pears, from different times of blossoming — the first at the usual time in spring, the second in June, and the third the first of September.

From John M. Glidden, Charlestown, N. H., fine specimens of his crop of corn, mostly of the Dutton variety. He has six acres of corn, which, from a specimen that has been harvested and measured, will yield eighty-four bushels to the acre.

The Mayflower Quince. — In our last number, we noticed an excellent new seedling quince, raised by J. Washburn, Plymouth. Since our notice, we have received of Mr. W. the name that he has assigned to it — the *Mayflower*, which was the name of the vessel that brought the first Pilgrim fathers to the New World. They landed at Plymouth. The name is a good one, commemorating one of the most important events in the annals of mankind, which transpired at the place where this fruit originated.

NOTICES OF PUBLICATIONS.

Hovey's Magazine of Horticulture. — This work still continues with unabated interest, often presenting new fruits, or new and important facts that claim the attention of florists and pomologists.

The Antiquarian. — This collection of ancient church music must be highly prized, as it contains many good tunes of "Auld Lang Syne." We are pleased to see them collected and kept along in a permanent form, so that they may not be swept away by the busy hand of innovation. Published by C. C. Clapp, Court Street.

For the New England Farmer.

STANZAS.

O, heaven's pure breezes are all my own,
And mine are the genial showers,
The sunlight's glow on the blooming earth,
And the wealth of fair wild flowers,
Which, circled with leaves of polished green,
In every woodland path are seen,
To gladden my steps where'er I stray,
And banish the shades of grief away.

Let others sing of the harp and lyre:
The caroling bird and humming-bee,
The summer zephyr's gentle sigh,
Have many a pleasing note for me;
And there's music, too, in the streamlet's flow
Which over the pebbles murmurs low,
And the voice of the echo which dies away
With the cottager's song at close of day.

I love to gaze on the radiant sky
Beneath the soft veil of even,
And watch each star whose golden ray
Illumes the vault of heaven.
A holy calm o'er my spirit steals,
As Nature her matchless charms reveals,
And I hear a voice like music fall —
"Your Heavenly Father made them all!"

Lebanon, Ct., *August*, 1849. E. C. L.

THE OLIO.

Curious Anagrams. — About as neat a use of initials, in the expression of an idea, as we have ever seen, is in the following couplet, written on the alleged intended marriage of the old Duke of Wellington with Angelina Burdett Coutts, the rich heiress: —

"The duke must in a second childhood be,
Since in his doting age he turns to A B C."

It is only the calm waters that reflect heaven in their breast.

Pride. — Pride emanates from a weak mind: you never see a man of strong intellect proud and haughty.

TERMS. — The New England Farmer is published every other Saturday, making a neat and handsome volume, at the close of the year, of 416 pages, at $1 a year, or five copies for $4, payable in advance. It may be neatly bound at 18¾ cents, or elegantly bound in muslin, embossed and gilt, at 25 cents a volume. As it is stereotyped, back numbers can be furnished to new subscribers.

☞ The Postage ☜

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